

kew

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONDON CHAPTER, ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MAY 1977

77-3

MEETING NOTICE

This month Dr. W.B. Roosa of the University of Waterloo will present a talk entitled "Palaeo-Indian in the Great Lakes." Dr. Roosa has researched fluted point occupations in both Ontario and Michigan, and following several years of field research and analysis, he is now working full time to produce the first detailed report on an Ontario fluted point site - the Parkhill (Brophey) site. A brief statement concerning this important Palaeo-Indian camp was recently published by *The New York Academy of Sciences*. The band social structure evidenced on this site is perhaps the most exciting Palaeo-Indian information derived from the Northeast to date.

The Lounge (Room 344) of Talbot College, University of Western Ontario, will be the setting for our last regular meeting before the summer break. Meeting time is 8:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 12. The last turnout was encouraging!

EXECUTIVE REPORT

It was with great pleasure that we were able to announce the election of a London Chapter executive to the Toronto O.A.S. membership on April 20. Mr. Charles Nixon, president, was introduced to the enthusiastic gathering at this time. As an introduction to the London Chapter membership, we present the following brief profiles of your newly elected executive officers:

Mr. Charles Nixon, President



Mr. Nixon is a resident of Ayr, Ontario, became interested in local archaeology in 1966, and joined the Ontario Archaeological Society in 1968. A year later he became a member of the Canadian Archaeological Association. Charles has been involved in an intensive archaeological survey

of the Brant and Oxford County area and has been licensed by the Ministry of Culture and Recreation for this research both in 1976 and 1977. His careful surface collection, mapping and registration of sites has greatly improved our understanding of the Native occupation of this area from late Glen Meyer to late Prehistoric Neutral times.

Ms. Norah McWilliam, Vice President



Norah is presently the Visitor Services Programmer with the Ministry of Natural Resources in Aylmer. Having attended the University of Toronto, in the Department of Anthropology, Norah received her M.A. in Archaeology in 1973. During her school career, she attended field schools under the direction of Dr. Al Mohr, Erindale

College, at the Milton, Brown and Campbell sites. Norah also worked as a

volunteer for Bill Finlayson at the Donaldson site. More recently, Norah conducted site surveys in Northern Ontario around Lakes Nipigon and Black Sturgeon. She also conducted a follow-up dig at an historic fur trading post located in Blacksand Provincial Park. Norah continued to pursue a career in park and museum interpretation in Northern Ontario until a year ago, when she accepted her present post in Aylmer.

Mr. George Connoy, Secretary-Treasurer

No picture
available

Our new secretary-treasurer is already experienced in the problems of organizing our young Chapter, being a former member of the interim steering committee. George hails from St. Thomas and is also a member of the Archaeological Society of Western Ontario. He has had a long and continuing

interest in the archaeology of Elgin County, and has had executive experience in a variety of other organizations.

The first executive meeting was held on Thursday, April 21 in Aylmer, with Charles, Norah, George and your editor (W. Fox) in attendance. Most of the time was spent briefing the new President and Vice-President on Chapter developments. Correspondence, records and the treasury were officially handed over to George Connoy and Norah agreed to assume responsibility for social events planning. Charles Nixon proposed that a membership list be published (you will find it at the end of the newsletter) and that time be allotted in future meetings for informal reports by amateur archaeologists on work in their local area. Other subjects discussed were field work opportunities for Chapter members and guest speakers for the fall.

The latter include Dr. Mike Spence, who will describe his work in Mesoamerica Professor Dean Knight, who will speak on either Huron or Shield archaeology; Dr. David Stothers who will discuss recent developments in the archaeology of the western Lake Erie area

and Dr. Bill Noble, who is prepared to describe his research in the Northwest Territories. As announced at our last meeting, Professor Reid at the University of Windsor and David Smith of the Museum of Indian Archaeology, University of Western Ontario, may be able to accept a number of Chapter volunteers for field work this summer. A letter from Dr. Bill Roosa has indicated that the University of Waterloo will have no projects requiring volunteer assistance this summer.

NOTE

Norah McWilliam will be chairing committees responsible for the organization of both the Chapter summer barbeque and the proposed Ohio field trip this fall. Those wishing to assist in these projects are asked to contact Norah at the next meeting or by letter at our official Chapter address:

762 Elm Street,
ST. THOMAS, ONTARIO.
N5R 1L4

SPECIAL THANKS

The Chapter executive would like to thank the two departing members of the interim steering committee, Ms. Arlene Yaworsky and Mr. Ron Williamson, for their time and effort during the uncertain beginnings of our new organization. Their concern has brought us this far - let us hope that their work will be rewarded in a strong and active Chapter! Our Chapter is also indebted to those staff and students of the University of Western Ontario who have provided us with everything from a regular meeting room to hot coffee at the meetings.

THE BOYD SITE AND THE EARLY WOODLAND OF SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO

Last meeting, Ron Williamson presented a slide illustrated talk concerning the University of Western Ontario's recent work on the Boyd mortuary complex near Long Point. "Complex" certainly proved to be an accurate description of the remains uncovered during their excavations.

A confusing array of pit and red-ochre stain features were laid bare and carefully dissected in an effort to illuminate this poorly documented segment of Ontario's prehistory.

What came to light was a startling assortment of chert cache blades, slate gorgets, native copper ornaments, and some distinctive ceramics. A number of the chert points may have been manufactured of Ohio material and the crude exterior and interior corded clay vessels appear similar to Shultz Thick wares reported in Michigan. To further complicate an already complex site, it appears that later Glen Meyer peoples also utilized the top of the Boyd knoll, intruding into the earlier cemetery. Ron concluded by discussing a number of the social implications of the evidence, including seasonality of the interments, band size and the number of burial events represented by the remains.

ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGY QUIZ III

This month we will consider Ontario prehistory from a chronological standpoint, and ask our readers to order the following list of cultural periods, industries and artifacts from 1. (Oldest) to 10. (Youngest).

1. Tionontates
2. Grooved axe
3. Glacial kame culture
4. Meadowood phase
5. Enterline industry
6. Middleport stage
7. Kirk corner notched point
8. Wolf phase
9. Otter Creek point
10. Copper pan pipes

QUIZ II ANSWERS:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. R.T. Anderson | Elgin County |
| 2. Fritz Knechtel | Bruce County |
| 3. Charles Garrad | Petun nation |
| 4. Tom Lee | Lucas site |
| 5. F.W. Waugh | Walker site |
| 6. Walter Kenyon | Inverhuron site |
| 7. Ken Kidd | Kreiger site |
| 8. Jim Wright | Middleport horizon |

DEAD OR ALIVE

That is the question! Where are all these anonymous letters of insult? Yes, as your KEWA editor, I would even appreciate a few of these. This is our third newsletter and we are yet to receive a letter pro or con from the silent majority - our membership! If you have any thoughts about our Chapter or Ontario archaeology in general, please drop us a line addressed to:

KEWA Editor
55 Centre Street
London, Ontario
N6J 1T4